

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 MCT-01 SY-05 USSS-00 COME-00
ACDA-12 HA-05 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 CU-04 AID-05 /116 W
-----126298 062146Z /46

R 061358Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6882
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0426

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, SF
SUBJECT: TWO GERMANS, FOUR SOUTH AFRICANS DETAINED UNDER
TERRORISM ACT

SUMMARY: TWO GERMAN NATIONALS WERE AMONG SIX PERSONS DETAINED
LAST WEEK UNDER SECTION SIX OF TERRORISM ACT. GERMAN AMBAS-
SADOR PRESENTED DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO FOREIGN OFFICE TODAY ASKING
THAT THE TWO BE CHARGED IMMEDIATELY IN COURT OR ELSE
RELEASED. REASONS FOR DETENTION HAVE NOT RPT NOT BEEN
DIVULGED. END SUMMARY

1. ACCORDING WEEKEND PRESS REPORT, SECURITY POLICE ON MARCH
2 DETAINED SIX PERSONS UNDER SECTION SIX OF THE TERRORISM
ACT. THE SIX ARE LISTED AS TIM JENKIN, A RESEARCH
ASSOCIATE AT THE INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, WHICH IS
ATTACHED TO "COLORED" UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN CAPE; DAPHNE
SMITH, LIBRARIAN AT UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN (UCT); STEVEN
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LEE, UCT SOCIOLOGY STUDENT; FEROZA EBRAHIM, EMPLOYED
IN A LOCAL DRESS SHOP; AND TWO GERMAN NATIONALS, H.
HIRT AND K. HARMUT, BOTH UCT BIOCHEMISTRY STUDENTS.
HEAD OF CAPE TOWN SECURITY POLICE H. KOTZE CON-
FIRMED TO THE PRESS THAT THE SIX ARE BEING HELD UNDER
SECTION SIX BUT, AS USUAL IN SUCH CASES, REFUSED TO
DIVULGE FURTHER DETAILS.

2. GERMAN CONSUL GENERAL K. RUSCHER TOLD CONGENOFF TODAY, IN CONFIDENCE, THAT GERMAN AMBASSADOR DELIVERED DIPLOMATIC NOTE THIS MORNING TO SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS BRAND FOURIE WHICH CALLS ON SAG TO IMMEDIATELY CHARGE THE TWO IN COURT OR TO RELEASE THEM, ASKS FOR FULL DETAILS OF REASON FOR THEIR DETENTION AND FOR ACCESS TO AN ATTORNEY. RUSCHER SAID HE FIRST LEARNED OF DETENTION AFTERNOON OF MARCH 2 FROM HARMUT'S FATHER WHO IS DIRECTOR OF GERMAN SCHOOL HERE. RUSCHER CALLED COL. KOTZE WHO CONFIRMED DETENTION OF HARMUT AND ARRANGED FOR HIS PARRENTS TO SEE HIM ON MARCH 3 ACCOMPANIED BY GERMAN CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVE. SECURITY POLICE WERE ALSO PRESENT. ON MARCH 5 SIMILAR MEETING WAS ARRANGED FOR HIRT'S PARENTS WHO ALSO RESIDENT HERE. RUSCHER SAID NEITHER DETAINEE HAD ANY COMPLAINTS ABOUT TREATMENT TO DATE. COL. KOTZE REFUSED TO DISCLOSE TO PARENTS REASONS FOR DETENTIONS BUT SAID THAT INTERROGATIONS WERE CONTINUING. RUSCHER SAID THAT "READING BETWEEN THE LINES" HIS IMPRESSION IS THAT THE TWO ARE BEING HELD AS FUTURE WITNESSES RATHER THAN AS ACCUSED BUT HE HAS NO RPT NO WAY TO VERIFY THIS IMPRESSION. RUSCHER STRESSED THAT HIS REMARKS WERE IN CONFIDENCE AND THEY SHOULD BE TREATED ACCORDINGLY.

3. IT IS HIGHLY UNUSUAL FOR SECTION SIX DETAINEES TO BE CONFIDENTIAL

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PERMITTED ACCESS TO FAMILY OR OTHER OUTSIDERS AND EXCEPTIONS WERE OBVIOUSLY GRANTED BECAUSE THE TWO ARE FOREIGN NATIONALS AND PROBABLY IN ANTICIPATION OF STRONG GERMAN GOVERNMENT REACTION. THE SIX DETAINEES ARE LARGELY UNKNOWN TO OUR USUAL LEGAL, UNIVERSITY, AND CHURCH SOURCES AND TO DATE THERE IS A DEARTH EVEN OF SPECULATION AS TO WHAT ACTIVITIES MAY HAVE PROMPTED THEIR DETENTIONS. WHITE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: PINT, SHUM, SF, GE, (JENKIN, TIM), (SMITH, DAPHNE), (LEE, STEVEN), (EBRAHIM, FEROZA), (HIRT, H), (HARMUT, K)
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